



**L. Brooks Patterson, County Executive
Oakland County Michigan**

What is Wireless Oakland

Wireless Oakland is an initiative launched by County Executive L. Brooks Patterson that consists of three goals. The first goal is to blanket the County's 910 square miles with wireless internet service. The second goal will directly address the County's "digital-divide" and provide low-cost or no-cost PC's and technology training to underserved population groups. Finally, the third goal will develop a Telecommunication and Technology Planning Toolkit that will support continued high-tech investments in local government and promote the integration of those investments with local community character and quality of life.

Benefits of Wireless Oakland

The benefits of this initiative are nearly endless. Wireless Oakland will prepare the **residents** of the County for the **jobs of tomorrow**. As businesses go **high-tech** and more high-tech firms locate and relocate their businesses within the County, the residents of the County must be prepared to fill the jobs those businesses have to offer. Additional benefits of the initiative will include:

- Enhancement of the **residential character** within local communities
- Reduced cost and improved reliability for a growing **mobile workforce**
- Elevation of the **technical knowledge** of the County's current and future workforces
- Support the continued development of Oakland County's **eGovernment** services

Boundaries of the Wireless Oakland Initiative

Through its private sector partners(s), this initiative intends to provide "open-air" and "in-building" wireless internet service that **compliments** broadband services currently provided throughout the County. Detailed requirements have not been developed to guide the build-out because the network will be installed, **owned**, and **operated** by **private partner(s)**. Instead, a series of high-level, fundamental service boundaries have been identified. These boundaries will ensure the wireless internet service provider (WISP) solutions are consistent with the objectives set forth by the Wireless Oakland initiative. In summary, the wireless internet service boundaries are:

- A portion of the wireless internet bandwidth will be **free** to all residents, businesses and visitors of Oakland County
- **WISP(s)** will be permitted to sell, and **profit from**, additional services above and beyond those free services. Public entities **WILL NOT** be allowed to financially benefit from the "for-fee" services
- The wireless internet service will be provided in **rural** and **urban** areas of the county so county-wide coverage can be ensured
- The wireless internet service will support "**consumer-based**" technologies
- Access to the wireless internet service will be provided through a standard captive portal and a single log-in database that provides a uniform user experience throughout the county
- Public tax dollars and/or grant monies **WILL NOT** be used to **subsidize** the provision of wireless internet service

These service boundaries serve as primary evaluation criteria during the competitive selection of private partner(s).

Wireless Oakland Initiative Calendar of Events

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| February 2005 | County Executive L. Brooks Patterson announces Wireless Oakland initiative at his State of the County Address. |
| March 2005 | Wireless Oakland Project Team holds a Public and Private Sector Summit to gather feedback on the initiative. Over 300 individuals from the private sector and more than 100 individuals from the public sector attend the two events. |
| April 29, 2005 | Wireless Oakland Project Team releases its Request for Qualifications (RFQ). The RFQ is downloaded more than 500 times in the first week. |
| May 1, 2005 | Over 20 local governments in Oakland County submit requests to be Wireless Oakland pilot communities. |
| May 25, 2005 | Approximately 80 individuals representing 45 private sector companies from throughout the country attend the Wireless Oakland RFQ Pre-Bid Meeting. |
| June 27, 2005 | Submission deadline for the Wireless Oakland RFQ responses. Thirteen private sector companies returned proposals to participate in Wireless Oakland. |
| August 2005 | The Wireless Oakland Organizational Structure will be unveiled. |
| August 2005 | Wireless Oakland Private Sector partners will be selected. Wireless Oakland Pilot Communities also selected. |
| September 2005 | Michtel Communications, LLC was chosen to conduct the Wireless Oakland Demonstration Project in downtown Pontiac during the Arts, Beats & Eats Festival over the Labor Day weekend. |
| Fall 2005 | The Wireless Oakland Pilot Projects will begin. |
| Early 2007 | Wireless Oakland build-out will be complete. |

Wireless Oakland Project Team

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For more information about the Wireless Oakland initiative, please refer to the Web site <http://www.wirelessoakland.org> or contact wirelessoakland@co.oakland.mi.us.